

## Board of Trustees

### BOT Training

The BOT's year has started with a training session with STA trainer, Gillian Diprose. Together we spent a full afternoon last week with looking at National Standards and curriculum in an effort to help the BOT members better understand their role/responsibility in ensuring delivery. We dealt with questions like: How can we as a board be confident that valid and reliable sources of information and formal assessment have been used? Do we have all the information we need? Throughout the year we will be working, in an environment of trust with the principal and teachers, to ensure National Standards and curriculum requirements are being fulfilled. It is a "work in progress" with good intentions on all sides.

### Property

The BOT continues to grapple with the ins and outs of upgrading the administration building. We are closer to a finished concept plan and we hope to see the project finished by June 2011. There will be some disruption to the staff area and to the principal's office but none to the students.

### Trent and Dallas Maguire

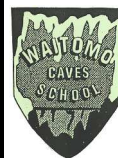
The BOT is very sorry to see the Maguire boys leave to continue their education at Otorohanga South School. We have asked to publish part of the lovely letter from Todd and Melissa which gives feedback on the boy's time at Waitomo Caves School.

"Waitomo Caves School has been an absolutely wonderful school for the boys. They have achieved everything any child could ask for. They were not deprived of anything. Unbelievable what they have learnt so thank you very very much. We are very proud of Tamae and the teachers for their efforts put into the boys, I just can't thank you enough. Because of you I have two wonderful boys and hope this continues when they move on."

Martha Ash, Secretary/Co Chair, BOT

## What's Coming Up At Waitomo Caves School

7 February	Seniors swim in Otorohanga	
8 February	<b>PARENT MEETING 3.15pm</b>	
8 February	Manual begins for Year 7 & 8's	
8 February	Storyteller visit	
11 February	Kapa Haka begins	
14 February	Kick Start classes resume	
14 February	Seniors swim in Otorohanga	
15 February	Board of Trustees meeting	
18 February	Next newsletter	
21 February	Small Schools Swimming Sports	
23 February	Hearing and Vision Testing	
28 February	Seniors swim in Otorohanga	Mrs Dimond
2 March	COP's Swimming Sports	Principal ☺



# Newsletter

Counter Box 49  
Waitomo Caves

Mobile 0273910746

Phone (07) 878-7534  
Fax (07) 878-7219

Whaia te ara totika – Make the Right Choice

Term One 2011

Week One – 4 February

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

Greetings and welcome back to a new school year. We extend a very special welcome to our newest students Zarah Stubbs, who turned five yesterday, Waimarama and Wikitoria Armstrong and Logan Townsend. Welcome Bernie & Shane and David & Toni Townsend to our parent community. We farewell the Maguire family and wish Trent and Dallas well at their new school.

We have begun the year with 31 students. Kowhai class consists of 16 Year 1 to 3 students and Kauri class has 15 Year 4 to 8 students. Ms Easton will be on leave every Friday for the duration of Term 1 and Mrs Glenys George will be teaching in the junior class on Friday's.

During Term 1 Mrs George will also continue to strengthen our children's musical skills and talents. Mrs Heather Pease will be teaching the senior class during the majority of the Principal release times and Rachel Stubbs will coach swimming and water safety skills. Whaea Jaimee Tamaki will tutor Te Reo Maori and Kapa Haka on Friday afternoons each week. Office administrator Mrs Bobbi Baker will be working on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in the morning. We also welcome back Barbara Hall as the most treasured voluntary helper in the whole of Waitomo! Mrs Carol Fleming returns as teacher aide and Mrs Sandra



**WAITOMO  
GLOW WORM  
CAVES**  
NEW ZEALAND



• Private Bag 501, Otorohanga.

• Telephone (07) 878-8227 • Facsimile (07) 878 8858

Proudly Supporting Waitomo Caves School

Morgan as top cleaner.

### **Parent Meeting**

There is a very important parent meeting scheduled for Tuesday 8 February at 3.15pm. Please make your attendance as parents will receive curriculum dates to plan for the year. Teachers will also brief our parent community on routines and procedures within the junior and senior class.

### **Swimming**

With the swimming season about to get underway all students will have daily swimming lessons in our school pool. All pupils are expected to participate and parents are asked to send along a note to the teacher if they wish to have their child excused from swimming for health reasons. Swimming attire is very important. Girls should wear a one piece suit and boys short shorts. Big baggy rashies, t-shirts and shorts restrict children from developing correct swimming techniques and buoyancy. Rashies keep the children cold and are only useful for protecting them from the sun. We provide sunscreen that does this job successfully. We also recommend students wear swimming caps to prevent long hair obstructing vision while in the water.

Rachel Stubbs will be coaching swimming on Monday's, Wednesday's, and Friday's of Term 1. Monday sessions will be held at the Otorohanga Pool for the senior class only. **Transport of 3 or 4 vehicles will be required to drive the seniors to town ever Monday afternoon.** Please contact Tamae if you can help. Class teachers will continue the swimming programme on Tuesday's and Thursday's.

Our sincere thanks to Alannah and Batch for their commitment and expertise in maintaining the pool over the summer break. A fantastic job! Thank you to the key holders for also doing your bit and helping out with the running of the pool.

### **Swimming Sports**

Please note Small Schools Swimming Sports will be held on Monday 21 February starting at 10.00am. This swimming event involves all Year 4 to 8 students in the senior class. We will need to assemble at the Otorohanga Pool by 9.45am on Monday morning. We require parental support, could parents please contact the school if you are able to help with transport.

On Wednesday 2 March our strongest swimmers from Year 4 to 8 will compete at the COP's swimming sports. Again we will need help with transport so students can assemble at the Otorohanga Pool by 9.45am for a 10.00am start.

### **Hearing and Vision Checks**

Vision Hearing Technician, Sue Collier will be visiting school on Wednesday 23 February to complete routine tests for new entrants and Year 7 students. Community services vision hearing technicians regularly visit schools to carry out routine hearing and vision checks. If any parent or caregiver does not want their child to be checked or your child is currently under specialist care for hearing or vision, you will need to let the technician know by leaving a message with the school.

### **Technology 2011**

Year 7 & 8 students will begin manual training on Tuesday 8 February. Children are required to have suitable covered footwear for safety reasons. These students will be involved in this curriculum specialist subject at Otorohanga South Technology Centre which will be every Tuesday afternoon and transport by bus is provided. Students will leave school at 12.30pm and return at 2.50pm.

### **Stationery and Fees**

Please be advised that stationery fees and any other costs relevant to Term 1 will be sent home by invoice around week 5.

### **Kick-Start Classes**

Kick-Start to School Classes resume on Monday 14 February for the term. During Term 1 we welcome Seth Gray, Qaiyaan Hughes and Jevaahn Costar.

### **SPARC Rural Travel Fund**

Towards the end of last year we were successful in an application for funding. We would like to acknowledge and thank the SPARC Rural Travel Fund Waitomo District Council. The rural travel fund is designed to help subsidise travel for junior teams participating in local sport competition the target being young people aged between 5 and 19 years of age. Also thank you parents and players for your commitment to your sports teams throughout 2010.

## **Community News**

**The Otorohanga Tennis Club** is having tennis lessons again this year for the kids and start on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> of February and run for 7 weeks with Quentin Wallace from Waipa Tennis Academy. This year the fees: ½ hour \$40 (aimed at ages 5 to 7), ¾ hour \$60 (aimed at ages 8 to 10), 1 hour \$110 (aimed at ages 11 and over). If your child is keen, please call Jo Butcher on 07 8736077 and leave a message on the answer machine if she is not home.